

Mechanical Insulation Grant Program FY24 Notice of Intent

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) is releasing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to announce a new grant program that will be offered for the first time in fiscal year 2024. The Mechanical Insulation Grant Program (Program) will provide grants to eligible individuals, nonprofit organizations, and business entities to help incentivize the installation of mechanical insulation on a commercial or industrial property, thereby enabling energy-saving improvements to large-scale thermal distribution networks. "Mechanical insulation" refers to insulation materials, facings, and accessory products used for thermal requirements for mechanical piping and equipment, hot and cold applications, and heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning applications. For this Program, mechanical insulation does not include insulation installed in a building envelope, which includes walls, roofs, floors, and other building shell surfaces.

Mechanical insulation can provide energy savings, as well as potential safety and performance benefits. When applied to cooling or heating systems, proper use of insulation will reduce thermal energy loss and help lower energy costs. When applied to steam systems, mechanical insulation can additionally help reduce the risk of burns.

The FY24 Mechanical Insulation Grant Program has a total budget of \$400,000. Awards are anticipated to be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Qualified projects must consist of a capital investment of at least \$10,000 in value, which can include the amount paid for the purchase, preparation, assembly, and installation of the mechanical insulation installed on the property. Grant awards will be the lesser of 30% of the total qualified investment, or \$20,000. More details about the upcoming Program can be found in Chapter 577 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland for 2022.

NEXT STEPS FOR POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

Entities with questions about the FY24 Mechanical Insulation Grant Program may reach out to insulation.mea@maryland.gov. MEA is additionally accepting comments on the program design at insulation.mea@maryland.gov until September 15th at 5 pm ET. If you are interested in getting updates on this new program from MEA, as well as other MEA energy programs, please follow MEA on social media at Facebook | X, formerly know as Twitter | LinkedIn.

Please note, this program is subject to change pending feedback from various sources. This document is not a guarantee of fund availability, nor is it a complete and full Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). Final program parameters and application instructions will be included in the FOA when announced later this year.